



Jesús Aguirre
Director

Winter Wondercamp 2011 Parent Handbook

Welcome to Winter Wondercamp at the Department of Parks and Recreation! We are excited to have your child join us for one of our fun-filled camps!

Winter Wondercamp 2011

Sites:

Ages 3-5: Trinidad Recreation Center
Deanwood Community Center
Douglass Recreation Center

Ages 6-12: Kennedy Recreation Center
Volta Park Recreation Center
Riggs LaSalle Recreation Center
Turkey Thicket Recreation Center
Trinidad Recreation Center
Sherwood Recreation Center
Deanwood Community Center
Fort Davis Recreation Center
Douglass Recreation Center
Fort Greble Recreation Center

Aqua (Ages 6-12): Deanwood Community Center

Camp Date and Hours:

Camps are open Tuesday, December 27th through Friday, December 30, 2011.

The program will begin at 9 a.m. each day and end at 5 p.m. We also offer before-care beginning at 8 a.m. and after-care until 6 p.m., for an additional fee.

Sample Daily Schedule:

9am—Breakfast / Free Play
10am—Morning Meeting
10:30am—Games / Sports
11:15am—Be Green/Character Activity
12pm—Lunch /Free Play
1pm—D.E.A.R./Story Time
1:45pm—Arts and Crafts
2:30pm—Games / Sports
3:15pm—Closing Circle
3:30—Choice activity (Centers)
5pm—Dismissal

Curriculum

The curriculum for Winter Wondercamp aligns to DPR's programmatic focus, "Move, Grow, Be Green." Each day children will participate in varying activities that will encourage and support movement, personal growth, and environment stewardship.

Field Trips

Sometime during the week of Winter Wondercamp, your child will have the opportunity to go on a field trip. The camp staff at your site will give you more information about the trip and a permission slip to sign.

Swimming

Children ages 6-12 will have the opportunity to go swimming. All camp staff members are required to get into the water with campers and maintain close proximity to help ensure camper safety. The camp staff should inform you of the swimming trip well in advance so you can send your child with the proper belongings. All children **MUST** bring a swimsuit and towel, even if they do not intend to swim. This is because children will not be allowed into the pool area without the proper attire, making it difficult to maintain proper supervision over all campers. We also recommend sending your child with water shoes.

Camper Safety

We strive to create the safest environment possible for your child. For ages 3-5, camps will maintain a 1:7 adult-to-child ratio. For ages 6-12, camps will have a 1:12 to 1:15 adult-to-child ratio. Camp staff members are recreation professionals and will be able to keep constant watch over each child as they play, create, and have an enriching camp experience.

We will also be paying very close attention to the weather and temperature. If ever the temperature is too low, your child will spend very limited amounts of time outside, if any.

Items to Bring (optional)

We encourage you to bring the following items to camp with your child:

- Books—Each day your child will have the opportunity to read or to be read to. Please send along any books you would like your child to read during the break. Many camps will be taking walking field trips to their local libraries to get books as well.
- Reusable Water Bottle
- Extra set of clothes
- Small Blanket—Little Explorers will have rest time each day.
- Swimsuit and Towel (for ages 6-12)

Winter Aqua Camp

The Winter Aqua Camp will provide campers with the opportunity to develop and enhance their swimming skills as well as their level of comfort in the water. The structured curriculum offers two swim lessons a day as well as an opportunity for the campers to practice their newly honed skills in structured play. At the end of the day a brief lesson will take place with a focus on environmental conservation and the effect of climate change on marine mammals.

What To Bring:

- Swimming trunks or swimming suit suitable for athletic water activities
- Towel
- Sandals, flip flops, or slides for poolside
- Change of Clothes
- Reusable Water Bottle (optional)
- Goggles (Optional)

Note to Parents:

For the duration of this Winter Camp, your child will be expected to participate fully and follow the instructions given by our certified personnel. Any behavior that puts your child, any other child, or our instructors at risk will not be tolerated and will be grounds for expulsion. Actions that may fall under this description are running on the pool deck, violence towards one's self, another, or an instructor, being disorderly during instructional lessons, or to insult someone on the basis of age, gender, race, or personal background. Please help our instructors provide a safe environment for your child to learn by informing them of our behavior policy before they attend a session.

Sample Schedule:

9am—Breakfast / Free Play
 10am—Morning Stretching
 10:30am—Swimming Lesson 1
 12pm—Lunch /Free Play
 1pm—Game / Sports (out-of-pool activity)
 2pm—Aquatic Activity
 3pm—Swimming Lesson 2
 4pm—Snack
 4:15pm—Intellectual Stimulation (out-of-pool activity)
 5pm—Dismissal

DPR Policies and Procedures

- All children must be signed in and out of camp daily. Children may not leave DPR property with anyone other than those designated by the parent or guardian on the registration form. Anyone designated to pick up a child must be at least 18 years old.
- Children cannot be dropped off before 8:50 a.m. if not enrolled in before-care. Children must be picked up by 5:10 p.m. if not enrolled in after-care.
- Children enrolled in after-care must be picked up no later than 6:10 p.m. If the child has not been picked up by 6:30 p.m., the proper authorities will be contacted.
- We do not allow the following food and drinks at camp: red juices of any sort, soda, chips, cookies, candy, sunflower seeds, or any kind of sugary snacks. ABSOLUTELY NO PEANUT PRODUCTS due to nut allergies. If your child arrives at camp with any of these items it will be taken and given back to them at the end of the day.
- Children must change into swimwear even if they do not intend to swim. They will not be allowed onto the pool deck without the proper attire.
- To ensure a positive, safe, and enriching experience for all participants, DPR holds high expectations for behavior. DPR reserves the right to dismiss any child who violates DPR site and/or camp rules or whose conduct is disruptive and prevents camp staff from providing a complete, consistent and enjoyable camp experience for the other participants. Children dismissed from the program are not eligible for a refund.
- DPR cannot administer medication of ANY kind. If your child is in need of medication, he/she must be able to administer it him/herself, or a parent or other approved adult can come to the site to administer the medication. Please do not send your child to camp if he/she is sick.
- REFUNDS: Refund requests must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 23, 2011. DPR retains a 10% processing fee on all refunds.

Questions?

Contact the Summer Camp Office:

Columbia Heights Community Center
 1480 Girard St. NW, 4th Floor
 Washington, DC 20009
 202-425-2859
dpr.camps@dc.gov

Hours: Mon-Tues 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Wednesday-Friday 10 am-5 pm